GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3507
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
EDUCATION OF WOMEN
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is paying special attention to the education of women;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government so far during the last three years;and

(c) the ratio of women in education in each State?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, under para 4.2 and 4.3 provides that "Education will be used as an agent of basic change in the status of woman.The removal of women`s illiteracy and obstacles inhibiting their access to, and retention in,elementary education will receive overriding priority through provision of special support services and effective monitoring.Major emphasis will also be laid on women`s participation in vocational,technical and professional education at different levels."

In pursuance of the policy framework envisaged in the NPE,there are several programmes for the education and empowerment of women,such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA),with its special focus on girls,Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya residential schools for girls,Scheme for strengthening of boarding and hostel facilities for girl students and community polytechnics for women, and Mahila Samakhya programme.In Kendriya Vidyalayas no tuition fees is charged from girls students.Single girl child in Kendriya Vidyalayas is exempted from the payment of all fees with effect from 01.01.2006.Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas have provision for 33% reservation of seats for girl students.In higher education, the University Grants Commission (UGC) also implements various Schemes for the education and empowerment of women viz.,setting up of Centres and Cells for Women Studies,Technology Courses for women,Part time Research Associateships,construction of Women's Hostels, financial assistance to women's Colleges for purchase of books,journals, equipment and setting up of Day care Centres.

(c): A statement showing the percentage of women enrolled in school & higher education by States/UTs for 2005-06 is given at Annexure.